## MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT



## Office of Public Information

contact: Marcia McBrien | (313) 972-3219 or (517) 373-0129

**CONTACT:** Kelly Beeman 517/373-5975

## CANDIDATES SOUGHT FOR FRIEND OF THE COURT BUREAU ADVISORY COMMITTEE

LANSING, MI, August 28, 2003 – The State Court Administrative Office (SCAO), the administrative arm of the Michigan Supreme Court, is seeking candidates for Michigan's Friend of the Court Bureau (FOCB) Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee provides advice and input to the FOCB, which is charged with developing standards, policy, and guidelines for Michigan's Friend of the Court offices. The FOCB also creates informational materials and standardized forms for domestic relations cases.

The Advisory Committee has openings for two human service professionals. To qualify as a human services professional member, a candidate must be a family counseling provider and a member of a local Friend of the Court citizen advisory committee. Advisory Committee members serve three-year terms and are appointed by the State Court Administrator.

In addition to other activities, the Advisory Committee has provided significant input on custody and parenting time investigation models. The committee was instrumental in developing the Michigan Parenting Time Guidelines and recommended substantial changes to the state's child support guidelines. More information is available on Advisory Committee's website at <a href="http://www.courts.michigan.gov/scao/services/focb/advisory.htm">http://www.courts.michigan.gov/scao/services/focb/advisory.htm</a>.

Advisory Committee candidates should send a cover letter and resume to Advisory Committee Vacancy, SCAO Friend of the Court Bureau, P.O. Box 30048, Lansing, MI 48909. The letter and resume may also be sent via e-mail to FOCBAdvisory@courts.mi.gov. The cover letter should include information about the applicant's local citizen advisory committee membership and outline other relevant experience. Written personal recommendations may be sent with the letter and resume. Applications and recommendations must be received by September 15, 2003.

**MSC**